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Chair: Ms. Ploder (Vice-Chair) ..... (Austria)

Contents

Agenda item 68: Promotion and protection of human rights (*continued*)

(b) Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms (*continued*)

(c) Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

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In the absence of Mr. Tommo Monthe (Cameroon) Ms. Ploder (Austria), Vice-Chair, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Agenda item 68: Promotion and protection of human rights (*continued*) (A/65/336)

(b) Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms (*continued*) (A/65/87, A/65/119, A/65/156, A/65/162, A/65/171, A/65/207, A/65/223, A/65/224, A/65/227 and Add.1, A/65/254, A/65/255, A/65/256, A/65/257, A/65/258, A/65/259, A/65/260 and Corr.1, A/65/261, A/65/263, A/65/273, A/65/274, A/65/280 and Corr.1, A/65/281, A/65/282, A/65/285, A/65/287, A/65/310, A/65/321, A/65/322, A/65/340 and A/65/369)

(c) Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives (A/65/222, A/65/284, A/65/288, A/65/331, A/65/364, A/65/367, A/65/368, A/65/370 and A/65/391)

1. **Ms. Ezelio** (Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children), introducing her report to the General Assembly (A/65/288), said that it focused on prevention of trafficking in persons, in light of concerns that some of the existing initiatives and programmes in that area undermined the enjoyment of human rights by trafficked persons; violations of human rights were both a cause and a consequence of trafficking in persons.

2. In order to combat trafficking in persons, it was not enough, as some countries did, to strengthen immigration control and border security, as that did not discourage clandestine migration but were in fact counterproductive, exposing prospective migrants to the risk of being trafficked. It was also necessary to address supply and demand factors.

3. Among the prevention strategies covered in the report, Member States should endeavour to address the root causes of trafficking, which were also supply factors, such as poverty, unemployment, lack of human security, gender-based discrimination, ethnic or social origin, and to protect and promote human rights. In order to curb demand for exploitative commercial sexual services and exploitative labour, States should focus on tackling demands of employers, recruitment agents or others who profited from trafficking and exploitation by strengthening their labour legislation and filling existing gaps in such legislation, including in the area of domestic work, while also implementing immigration policies informed by the evidence-based recognition of the demand for migrant labour, including low and semi-skilled labour. Strategies to promote safe migration should, however, not be based on restricting migration channels that might be deemed dangerous without concrete evidence; rather, they should protect freedom of movement, including of young women, and create more opportunities for legal and non-exploitative labour migration.

4. She urged countries also to conduct awareness-raising campaigns about the risks associated with trafficking in persons, based on accurate and adequate information, in order to give potential victims of trafficking a realistic idea of the risks they ran. She recalled that some campaigns thus far conducted by countries had inadvertently led to stigmatizing certain groups at risk of trafficking, such as women.

5. She also stressed the need for the meaningful participation of trafficked persons in the development of prevention programmes as the only way of understanding the reasons which drove such persons to leave and the types of support needed to spare others the same fate. Such prevention programmes should be based on accurate data on the incidence of human trafficking, and their implementation should be monitored and regularly reviewed in order to ensure that they were effective and respected the human rights of trafficked persons.

6. Drawing attention to the role of the private sector in combating human trafficking, she recommended that Member States should engage enterprises, hold them to account in preventing trafficking in persons in their sphere of influence, and envisage specific roles for them in national action plans.

7. Referring to her three most recent country visits, she welcomed Egypt's adoption of anti-trafficking legislation and its undertaking of important legislative reforms, such as the amendments to the Penal Code to criminalize child trafficking. She noted, however, that the problem of trafficking was ill-understood, a fact aggravated by the absence of accurate data on the trend

and manifestations of trafficking in persons in Egypt and that infrastructure and services to assist victims were lacking. She recommended that the Egyptian Government should conduct training and awareness-raising activities and establish shelters and hotlines to assist trafficked persons.

8. She welcomed the recent legislative and institutional improvements made by the Government of Argentina, such as the adoption of a law on the prevention and punishment of trafficking in persons, the establishment of a special unit within the State prosecutor's office to assist in investigations of trafficking in persons, and a special office under the Ministry of Justice for the rescue and assistance of trafficked persons. Anti-trafficking activities were, however, poorly coordinated at the national and provincial level, there was inadequate protection and access to justice for trafficked persons, police and security forces were corrupt, and traffickers enjoyed impunity. The Argentine Government should reform the current law to provide for the prosecution of cases of trafficking; provide for holistic, reintegrative and rehabilitative assistance to victims of trafficking in all provinces; establish a federal agency to coordinate anti-trafficking activities; and implement a zero tolerance policy with respect to corruption of law enforcement officers.

9. She welcomed the enactment by Uruguay of an immigration law which prohibited human trafficking, the organization of an inter-agency round table to address trafficking in women for sexual exploitation, and the establishment of a national committee to prevent sexual exploitation of children. She noted, however, that exploitation of children, especially girls, was extremely common and tolerated by society, particularly among the most excluded sectors of the population, which resorted to prostitution, even child prostitution, as a way to overcome poverty; that the low prosecution of trafficking cases contributed to the limited visibility of the problem in society. Furthermore, witnesses were not properly protected and assistance services for trafficked persons were inadequate. She recommended that the Government of Argentina should establish a national agency to coordinate anti-trafficking activities, establish mechanisms for witness protection and access to justice for trafficked persons, and address the factors which increased vulnerability to trafficking, such as inequality, poverty and discrimination, as well as demand.

10. Among other activities, she referred to the consultation she had organized in Dakar, Senegal, with anti-trafficking experts from nine regional mechanisms, who had thus had the opportunity to share experiences and practices and discuss ways of coordinating their activities.

11. **Ms. Velichko** (Belarus) said that her Government was following the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur following her visit to Belarus in 2009 and that the group of friends united against human trafficking, of which her country was a member, was supporting the work of the Special Rapporteur and was prepared to cooperate fully with her in stepping up the global campaign against that scourge.

12. **Ms. Sapag** (Chile) welcomed the Special Rapporteur's emphasis, in her report, on the Palermo Protocol, particularly article 9, and on public-private partnerships in preventing trafficking in persons. She asked how countries might better implement the Global Compact and certain essential ethical principles and requested further details regarding the Athens Ethical Principles, especially with regard to trafficking in women and children.

13. **Ms. Gintersdorfer** (European Union) asked what types of mechanisms could be envisaged to actively involve trafficked persons in developing and implementing preventive measures, what practical measures the Special Rapporteur had taken to encourage all Member States to ratify and implement the Palermo Protocol and how adoption by the General Assembly of a Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons could advance her efforts.

14. **Mr. Vigny** (Switzerland) said that Switzerland had done much to combat the trafficking of persons for sexual exploitation but had made less headway in combating labour trafficking. Accordingly, the national coordinating body to combat trafficking in persons had developed guidelines on labour exploitation and trafficking for exploitation in order to bolster action in that area. Switzerland intended to rely on the help of well-informed and properly trained labour inspectors as its main form of intervention and source of information. With regard to combating labour exploitation, he asked whether the Special Rapporteur had found examples of effective cooperation between countries of origin and countries of destination.

15. **Ms. Popovici** (Republic of Moldova) said that, in order to combat trafficking in persons, her country had

developed and been implementing since 2005 a framework of action based on four pillars: prevention; assistance to victims; introduction of an interconnected system of public services and non-governmental organizations; and cooperation with international organizations. Moldova fully appreciated the importance of addressing both the supply of and demand for exploitative commercial sexual services and exploitative labour, raising awareness about the risks associated with emigration and gathering reliable data to develop anti-trafficking strategies. Moldova was committed to supporting any initiative to strengthen international actions to prevent trafficking in persons.

16. **Ms. Melon** (Argentina) recalled that her country attached high priority to combating human trafficking and was a party to all of the conventions dealing with the issue. During the Special Rapporteur's visit to Argentina, she had met with several ministers, the chairman of the commission on refugees and representatives of the judiciary and of the Senate, as well as representatives of civil society organizations. She also recalled that her country had recently enacted a law on the prevention and suppression of human trafficking and assistance to trafficked persons, taken measures to eliminate violence against women and undertaken administrative reforms to enhance efficiency in that area. Argentina had taken note of the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur following her visit and looked forward to further proposals from her.

17. **Ms. Ezelio** (Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children) welcomed the establishment of the Group of Friends United against Human Trafficking, whose work would certainly enrich her own work, and looked forward to meeting the members of the Group and working with them.

18. She concurred with the representative of Chile that countries were not systematically implementing the Palermo Protocol; however, during her country visits, she had observed that measures were being taken to implement some of its provisions, including the establishment of services to assist victims of human trafficking, especially with regard to access to justice. She urged countries to fill legislative or other gaps according to the standards defined by the Palermo Protocol and principles and directives laid down by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2002, which explained the meaning of a human rights-based approach to preventing human trafficking.

19. She noted that both public-private partnerships and international cooperation were vital to preventing human trafficking. While the Global Compact was not binding, many companies had agreed to it. The Athens Ethical Principles, the first of their kind to address trafficking in persons and elimination of sexual exploitation, had been adopted at the initiative of companies. She announced that a conference would be held shortly in Egypt to promote wider acceptance of those principles.

20. Responding to the questions of the European Union, she referred to her report, in which she had given concrete examples of mechanisms and practices adopted by certain countries to involve trafficked persons in the development and implementation of anti-trafficking strategies, suggesting that other methods could involve the use of new technologies or networks. However, whatever method of action was envisaged, action should be based on reliable, verified and well-analysed data.

21. In all her reports and appearances before international bodies, she had called upon Member States to ratify the Palermo Protocol and urged parliamentarians in her visits to countries that had not yet ratified the Protocol to do so. She announced that Japan was planning on taking steps to ratify the Protocol.

22. She appreciated the frank review by the representative of Switzerland of his country's successes and failures in combating human trafficking. Observing that there was vigorous bilateral cooperation between countries and between international organizations on the issue, she said that Japan, for example, had signed agreements with other Asian countries to provide two years of training to unskilled and semi-skilled workers before sending them back to their countries. Although there were abuses by some companies that exploited people without compensation for two years on the pretext of training them, she encouraged the Japanese Government to continue the programme in the light of its usefulness and to prosecute those companies.

23. Every country could put together a four or five point strategy to combat trafficking in persons. However, no strategy could be fully effective if nothing was done to punish the traffickers. Since trafficking

brought in billions of dollars, every effort should be made to render the activity less lucrative. She again stressed the need to involve trafficked persons and to strengthen capacities and coordination.

24. **Ms. de Albuquerque** (Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation), introducing her first annual report (A/65/254), welcomed the fact that the right to water and sanitation had been recognized by the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council as a human right. That right, which was indispensable for the exercise of all human rights, was an integral part of international human rights law. She thanked the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Germany and Spain for their efforts, and noted that billions of people were yet to enjoy that right.

25. While the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and human rights were different, they could reinforce each other, provided that the approach used to achieve the goals was founded on human rights with a view to ensuring equitable and sustainable progress and addressing the shortcomings in the goals, especially with regard to inequalities, inadequate access and exclusion, as well as to quality.

26. Unlike the MDGs, international human rights obligations did not stop at a 50 per cent reduction or any other arbitrary benchmark. From a human rights perspective, the only possible goal remained universal coverage, which should be achieved gradually by States, within available resources and with international assistance. Many countries could and should set targets higher than 50 per cent. Reaching an MDG target must not be used as a justification for falling short of achieving universal access or forgetting disadvantaged groups.

27. The targets and indicators used for the MDGs did not take into account actual access to an improved drinking water source or to improved sanitation facilities and should therefore be aligned with human rights standards, which took the criteria of availability, acceptability, affordability, safety and durability into account. For instance, the poorest people might pay the highest rates, people might have access to sanitation infrastructure but could not afford to maintain it; women could not even use such toilets because they were not sex-separated. Moreover, in many instances, water from "improved" sources was in fact unsafe.

28. Finally, the MDGs might lead to concentrating on population groups that were relatively easy to reach at the expense of those that were poor, marginalized or not reflected in the official statistics. Thus, a State might easily meet the 50 per cent target without having extended access to water to the lowest wealth quintile. A human rights-based approach would place stronger emphasis on non-discrimination and require that progress be assessed on the basis of disaggregation not only according to urban/rural areas, but also according to discrimination on grounds of wealth, gender, ethnic origin or political and religious belief. The same applied to the problems encountered by women and girls. Such disaggregated data helped to better target those most in need.

29. Human rights also had the potential to address the lack of adequate participation in development projects by empowering people and enabling them to participate in a meaningful manner in the formulation of public policies and development plans. Moreover, instead of limiting themselves to a reductionist understanding of participation, States should overcome obstacles such as illiteracy, language or culture.

30. With regard to accountability, she stressed the central role that should be played by human rights treaty bodies in monitoring compliance with the right to drinking water and sanitation. Such bodies, which complemented MDG monitoring and reporting, went beyond monitoring by assessing compliance with specific human rights obligations, including non-discrimination.

31. **Mr. Loayza Barea** (Plurinational State of Bolivia) welcomed the report of the Independent Expert, and the criteria of availability, quality, accessibility, affordability and acceptability proposed therein to evaluate issues relating to the right to drinking water and sanitation. For Bolivia, which had initiated the resolution, recognition by the General Assembly of the right to drinking water and sanitation as a human right represented a breakthrough. Such recognition would undoubtedly contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. He wondered whether the Independent Expert could indicate the measures that needed to be taken by States to ensure that right and how international cooperation could assist developing countries in particular in that respect.

32. **Ms. Carnal** (Switzerland), expressing support for the recommendations contained in the report of the Independent Expert, wondered whether the Independent Expert could provide further details regarding the development of indicators of access to drinking water and sanitation and indicate what entity would be best able to address that issue.

33. **Ms. Gintersdorfer** (European Union) wished to hear the Independent Expert's views on how the approach to the issue of providing water and sanitation might be changed to find sustainable solutions, and on how a human right to water and sanitation could improve the situation of the people who lacked such access.

34. **Ms. Robles** (Spain) welcomed the report of the Independent Expert and wondered about the impact on the protection of the right to water and sanitation of the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which the Independent Expert, in her report, encouraged States to ratify as soon as possible.

35. **Mr. Wu** (Australia) said that, in recognition of the importance of access to drinking water and sanitation to meeting the MDGs in general, Australia had allocated over $300 million in official development assistance to water and sanitation since 2008. He was interested in the independent views of the Expert on how the profile of water and sanitation could be raised globally.

36. **Ms. Jones** (United Kingdom) said that the issue was a priority for her Government whose bilateral programmes had provided access to safe water and sanitation to 4.5 million people in Africa and 28.6 million people in Southeast Asia since March 2008. The United Kingdom did not currently recognize a right to sanitation and had not joined the consensus on General Assembly resolution 64/292 because it felt that there was insufficient legal basis under international law to recognize such a right and insufficient definition of States' obligations thereunder. She asked whether the Independent Expert had plans to further explore that issue.

37. **Mr. Hjelde** (Norway) said that the right to safe drinking water and sanitation was a precondition for the realization of many other human rights and asked whether the Independent Expert intended to systematically examine the interrelationships between water and other human rights.

38. **Mr. Schroeer** (Germany) said Germany agreed that the right to water and sanitation derived directly from the right to an adequate standard of living. The Independent Expert should explain why a human rights-based approach was more efficient than an approach based on the Millennium Development Goals. He also wanted to know how she saw the future of her mandate.

39. **Ms. de Albuquerque** (Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation), replying to the question raised by the Bolivian representative, said that access to drinking water and sanitation required political will and national action plans embodying that will. International cooperation was essential but had to take human rights into account in order not to exacerbate inequalities. With regard to the indicators referred to by Switzerland, she said that it was quite possible to measure access to drinking water and sanitation using other human rights standards or drawing on the example of certain countries, provided there were proper resources and a political will to match. Responding to the European Union, she indicated that a human rights-based approach required focusing on the poorest and most vulnerable. There was a difference between the human right to water and sanitation, which required relatively small amounts of water, and the water crisis in general, which affected the supply of water for non-essential products. The recognition by States of the right to drinking water and sanitation boosted their efforts to incorporate the issue into negotiations on the MDGs, thus making their position more consistent and helping to improve access for the excluded. In her view, the human rights-based approach better depicted reality than the MDGs. Turning to the question of Spain, she said that the Human Rights Council's recognition of the right to water and sanitation clearly empowered the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to receive complaints of alleged violations of that right. Responding to the concern of Australia, she said that she would strive to raise the profile of human rights, water and sanitation by ensuring that those issues were reflected in different initiatives. Referring to the question raised by the United Kingdom, she explained that, as a result of her work, she had developed a basic definition of sanitation; she intended to continue to work on sanitation and would focus next on national plans of action. Reacting to the comments of the representative of Norway, she noted that other human

rights affected by the right to safe drinking water and sanitation included the right to security to work and to education. In response to Germany, she noted that the efficiency of the human rights-based approach stemmed from the fact that it was concrete, was less concerned with statistics and closer to human beings.

40. **Mr. Ahmed** (Algeria) invited the Independent Expert to visit Algeria, asked what country she planned to visit next, and wondered how access to drinking water and sanitation could be provided without adequate financial resources.

41. **Ms. de Albuquerque** (Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation) said that her visits, which were planned with a view to ensuring a geographical balance, had already been scheduled for 2010 and 2011, but that she accepted Algeria's invitation for 2012. In her experience, it was by demonstrating the necessary political commitment and by developing national strategies that financial assistance from other countries could be obtained.

42. **Ms. Sepúlveda Carmona** (Independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty), introducing her report (A/65/259), said that a rights-based approach to social protection with a strong gender component was more likely to ensure long-term improvements. She welcomed the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, which recognized the efforts of developing countries to implement and expand social protection measures and emphasized the important role of South-South cooperation in that respect. She welcomed the States' commitment to establishing comprehensive systems of social protection and ensuring universal access to essential social services and health care for all, in compliance with their international obligations.

43. In order to ensure that those living in extreme poverty also benefited from the efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, social protection systems must be rights-based because, quite often, the poorest did not benefit from any progress achieved. Such systems could address and reduce inequality, discrimination and social exclusion thereby helping to achieve all the Millennium Development Goals.

44. They played a key role in protecting individuals and families from unforeseen situations, including unemployment, disability, disease, economic crisis and environmental degradation, thereby stimulating productivity. Moreover, under international human rights law, it was incumbent upon States to provide a basic level of social protection by guaranteeing the right to social security to an adequate standard of living and decent standards of work.

45. Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals depended to a considerable extent on the empowerment of women and enhancing women's capacity to fully exercise their rights. Yet gender concerns were not taken into account in the design and implementation of social protection programmes. Accordingly, policymakers must pay greater attention to the issue of gender equality when designing, implementing and evaluating rights-based social protection programmes, as required under international human rights law.

46. Such programmes, which could contribute to promoting women's participation in the labour force, provide them with income security in old age and improve access to education, must be complemented by social policies to ensure that they had access, inter alia, to land, productive resources and credit; such policies should also provide incentives for a balanced sharing of household responsibilities between men and women and promote the role of women as caregivers.

47. The outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs emphasized that social protection measures played a crucial role in accomplishing the aforementioned goals and that States were bound to have problems achieving them if they failed to include human rights in their MDG-related strategies and programmes. Eradicating extreme poverty and promoting human rights were mutually reinforcing. Social protection systems were vital to achieving both. The time had therefore come to translate the commitments to the elimination of extreme poverty into reality.

48. **Mr. Errázuriz** (Chile), noting that the Independent Expert's report urged Member States to design, implement and evaluate rights-based, gender-responsive protection systems, pointed out that his country had made human rights, gender equality and social inclusion a priority.

49. **Mr. González** (Mexico) stated that his country's strategy for improving the people's living conditions had achieved its objective, namely to provide coverage for the most vulnerable: children, teenagers, women,

the disabled, the elderly and indigenous people. His Government had also implemented a number of programmes that had improved living conditions and enhanced the enjoyment of human rights. The most noteworthy of them helped to build capacity in the areas of education, health and food. The Government had shared its experience with other countries and assisted those that wished to implement similar programmes. Mexico was committed to implementing the Independent Expert's recommendations.

50. **Mr. Shen** (China), stressing the role of social protection in the eradication of poverty, welcomed the fact that the High-level Plenary Meeting had provided the opportunity to share experiences on the MDGs. The goal of social protection was not only to improve the situation of people living in extreme poverty, but also to enable individuals to reach their full potential. Social protection systems must take specific national circumstances into account. He wondered, in the light of the vast scope encompassed by social protection, whether the Independent Expert could indicate the gaps therein. He also wanted to know what cooperation and assistance could be provided by the international community in that regard.

51. **Mr. Pérez** (Peru) asked the Independent Expert to describe the actual impact of the measures that had been taken. She should also explain the impact that direct cash transfer programmes had had on eliminating extreme poverty, and make recommendations on the role of South-South cooperation in that area. Lastly, he would like her to explain her comment that extreme poverty was not just about income.

52. **Ms. Gintersdorfer** (European Union) said that extreme poverty, which prevented the enjoyment of civil and political rights, was not just about earnings and did not affect just developing countries. The Independent Expert should describe the effects of the financial crisis on the national social protection mechanisms mentioned in her report. She would also like to know how coordination among the various United Nations bodies could be improved to help eliminate extreme poverty. Finally, she asked the Independent Expert to indicate the course of action that was being planned to better reflect the particular vulnerability of women in poverty elimination strategies.

53. **Ms. Sibanze** (Zambia), referring to the Independent Expert's visit to her country, said that her Government had decided to extend to the entire country the pilot cash transfer programme for the reduction of extreme poverty and hunger implemented in 2009; it had also increased budgetary resources allotted to cash transfer programmes.

54. **Ms. Mballa Eyenga** (Cameroon) said that her delegation shared the Independent Expert's views on the measures needed to improve the living conditions of those people living in extreme poverty. Regarding the collective responsibility of the international community in reducing poverty, she asked whether the Independent Expert had made the case for social protection to international financial institutions, because investment in that area was not usually financially profitable, particularly in the short term. She also wanted to know about the specific actions taken by the Independent Expert and the reaction of international financial institutions to the arguments developed in her report.

55. **Ms. Méndez Romero** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela), recalling that the Human Rights Council had asked the Independent Expert to continue her work on the draft guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights, asked what she planned to do in that area. Her country, which would chair the Commission for Social Development for the following two years, planned to revitalize the Commission's work in order to enhance poverty alleviation efforts. The progress her country had made in that area could serve as an example. Despite the crisis of capitalism, the Government had increased its investments in the social sector. Seventy per cent of the total revenue between 1999 and 2000 had been allocated to social investments, which had spurred progress towards a universal social protection system and led to a fall in the poverty rate from 49 per cent in 1998 to 24.2 per cent in 2002 and in the extreme poverty rate from 29.8 per cent in 2003 to 6.2 per cent in 2009. Moreover, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean had acknowledged that her country was the one that had reduced inequality the most in the region. She assured the Independent Expert of her delegation's cooperation.

56. **Ms. Sepúlveda Carmona** (Independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty) said that South-South cooperation was very dynamic and that the social protection programmes undertaken worldwide, including the cash-transfer programmes,

had been designed and implemented in the South. Although South-South cooperation was very effective, it was not enough; international assistance was still indispensable to making the collective responsibility of the international community for the eradication of poverty a reality. While she welcomed the recent emphasis placed on social protection by the G-20, she noted that all the actors must make more progress. Donor countries needed to address the lack of coordination and harmonization among programmes and respect the priorities identified by recipient countries. For their part, recipient countries must strengthen their anti-corruption efforts to prevent the diversion of international aid at the expense of the poor.

57. Responding to the question raised by China, she said that the gaps in social protection were the inadequacy of social security in both developed and developing countries, and the lack of decent work, as illustrated by the plight of the working poor.

58. As to the impact of the financial crisis, she had noted in her previous report that social protection measures served to provide protection not only against risks but also against more structural problems, including those related to climate change, that primarily affected the poorest.

59. She also welcomed the Zambian Government's expansion of its pilot cash transfer programme and its increase in the social protection budget. Turning to the draft-guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights to be developed by the States and adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2012, she noted that, after being invited to provide an input to the development of the relevant draft, she had introduced new draft guidelines at the previous session of the Human Rights Council that were an update to and an improvement of the guidelines developed in 2006 by the former Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. However, countries needed to give their views on that draft, since national experts could help to improve some principles on poverty and human rights. She thanked the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for offering to share its experience with other countries, and called upon other States with substantial experience in poverty reduction to do likewise.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.